

From: James O'Brien
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Public Interest

The DOJ settlement with Microsoft is in the public's best interest. The competitive playing field is open and level. There are many very substantial companies which have the intellectual and financial resources needed to successfully compete with Microsoft, including Oracle, Sun Microsystems, IBM, Compaq, Hewlett Packard, Computer Associates, Intel, Dell, etc. These companies are free to offer competitive products to the public, should any or all of them choose to do so. They certainly do not need Federal or State governments to help them compete.

The average consumer has benefited greatly from Microsoft's innovation, excellent products, and very affordable prices. DOJ's settlement with Microsoft is appropriate and in the best interest of technology consumers. Continued opposition to the settlement by certain States is irrational.

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